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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
793.00/9-2952

FROM : American Embassy, Taipei.

REVIEWED BY

Action Assigned to

DATE

Action Taken

TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

DESP. NO.

EXT. DATE

September 29, 1952.

REF

Taipei's Despatch No. 150, September 24, 1952

CLASS. MARKINGS

RELEASABLE

Chinese Newspaper

Comment on the Use of Chinese Troops

DECLASSIFIED

RELEASABLE

10/11/52

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			LONDON	PARIS	SAIGON	SINGAPORE	MANILA
							BANGKOK

SUBJECT: Open Letter to Mainland Guerrillas from Political Department of Chinese Ministry of National Defense.

A translation of the full text of an open letter recently addressed to the Chinese guerrillas on the mainland by the General Political Department of the Ministry of National Defense is enclosed.

The letter, after adverting briefly to military, economic and political progress on Formosa during the past three years (none of which is attributed to American assistance), declares: "...all requirements for our counterattack are about completed. We are ready to launch the counterattack at the first bugle call."

Moreover, in the MacArthurian manner, the letter promises: "We shall return". It states that the troops and the people on Formosa are living together like "one family" and that at the time of the counteroffensive "both the troops and the people will form themselves into a single fighting force".

COMMENT: Since the letter is intended to boost the morale of the hard-beleaguered mainland guerrillas, who have been decimated by the Chinese communists, it should not be reviewed too critically. It seems pertinent, however, to observe that an assault on Communist China is hardly an imminent undertaking -- in view of the present incomplete training and equipment of the Chinese armed forces and the need for American logistical, air and naval support for such an operation. It is reliably reported that responsible Chinese military and political leaders, as well as United States military advisers and observers, are well aware of this fact.

That the Formosans and the Chinese soldiers (95 percent of whom came from continental China) are living together like one family is a considerable over-statement of the congeniality of their relations. Since February 28, 1947, there has been marked improvement in the attitude of the native people of this island towards the Chinese Army. However, in view of the economic burden of the military establishment (reflected in heavier taxes and higher living costs), difference in background and language

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difficulties between the Formosans and the Chinese troops -- to mention a few main factors -- it seems likely that the attitude of the local populace is more one of resignation than of enthusiasm. The preference of the Formosans for peace and prosperity on their native isle -- with the corresponding lack of desire to "return to the mainland", where they have never been -- makes it highly questionable that they would join the Chinese troops as comrades-in-arms at the time of the counter-attack.

In the desperate days of early 1950, President CHIANG Kai-shek and other Chinese leaders spoke freely of an early attack on the mainland -- usually within a period not longer than one year -- but of late their statements along this line have been much more guarded and have stressed the need for a period of preparation, as well as the necessity of "adequate support" from the United States. While the view that the day for counter-attack is near at hand has been little expressed during the past year by responsible Chinese officials, it is one which quickens the hopes of refugees here for return to their homes in China. To illustrate, the September 29 issue of China News in its news round-up, "The Week In Free China", states that Admiral Arthur W. RADFORD's forthcoming visit to Taipei has set speculation loose here that his visit is in connection with the possible deneutralization of Formosa and adds:

"The public in general, catching every straw in the air, buoyed up sanguine hope that any neutralization alteration may propel an early counter-offensive on the mainland. The belief seemingly gained ground as myriads of the 'we shall return' leaflets were allegedly peppered on the mainland by the National Defense Ministry's political department".

ACTION REQUESTED: Department please send copies of this despatch to London, Paris, Saigon, Singapore, Manila and Bangkok.

Copies pouched to Hong Kong and Tokyo.

Howard P. Jones

Enclosure: *JA*

Open Letter to Mainland Guerrillas
From Political Department of Chinese
Ministry of National Defense.

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Page 1 of Enclosure to
Despatch No. 156 from
Taipei

Press Summary

Central Daily News
September 22, 1952

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GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT TELLS THE MAINLAND GUERRILLAS:
"WE SHALL RETURN"

Following is a full text of the open letter addressed to the Chinese guerrillas on the mainland by the General Political Department of the Ministry of National Defense:

Dear Comrades:

You are on the mainland, and we are on Formosa. Although physically we cannot easily reach each other, separated by the narrow waters of the Straits of Formosa, yet in heart and spirit we are bound together by the brilliant display of your undaunted struggle against the communists and by the bright picture of our progress in reforms and reconstructions made on Formosa during the past three years. No, the Straits of Formosa cannot sever our hard-working spirit at all although it has temporarily separated our physical beings.

Time is flying. Month by month three years have elapsed. Are you wondering whether we have forgotten you? Are you worrying whether we shall ever go back? Dear Comrades! Let us tell you truthfully: we have never for a second forgotten you, nor have we ever forgotten our compatriots on the mainland who are now amidst agonies and sufferings. Please listen to these words: we shall return! Let us band ourselves together and struggle courageously under our Supreme Leader President Chiang. Let us work together to fulfill our historical missions; save our mainland compatriots, successfully complete our counterattack, drive out the Russian aggressors and wipe out the Chu-Mao traitors.

Dear Comrades! You may have missed us very much, who are now stranded on this island of Formosa. You may be anxious for our return to the mainland. In the meantime you may wish to hear of our progress and rejuvenescence here during the past three years. Now let us tell honestly what we have done during that long time. First, in the military field, the men of our armed forces, with new training, new equipment and new mental education, have made strides by leaps and bounds. Their morale is high. The instant the order to counterattack is given, we can assure you that each man will display a fighting strength of ten, and ten men that of a hundred. Since we earnestly pushed forward the "honor the troops and respect the people" movement, the troops and the people have lived together like one family. They are like fish and water. At the time of the counterattack both the troops and the people will form themselves into a single fighting force.

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Page 2 of Enclosure to
Despatch No. 156 from
Taipei

In political and economic fields, the realization of the 37.5% rental reduction program, the lease of public land to the people, the projected limitation of land ownership, and the decision to allocate land to the members of the armed forces have laid a solid foundation for our "land to the tillers" program. The state operation of certain important industries, the encouragement of private enterprise, the stability of currency and commodity prices, the increased agricultural, industrial and mining production, and social security have all contributed to the ever-growing strength of Free China, bringing step by step the Three People's Principles toward fulfillment. These are the guaranty that will give us victory in our bitter struggle against the Communists.

By our own efforts to seek rejuvenation and constant improvement, we have been brought face to face with an international situation advantageous to us. On the other hand, the deceptive smoke-screen raised by the Chu-Mao traitors has been seen through by the peoples of the world. The anti-aggression front of the free world is growing stronger and stronger each day. In the rising current of anti-aggression Free China has come to the forefront of anti-Communism, anti-totalitarianism and anti-barbarism. The anti-Communist forces of the entire world are beginning to run together in a single stream.

Dear Comrades! Here is a comprehensive picture of the whole situation: all requirements for our counterattack are about to be completed. We are ready to launch the counterattack at the first bugle call. Dear Comrades, before the dawn the darkness will be darker. The nearer the victory, the more strenuous will be your struggle. Hold on, comrades. Conserve your strength. Develop your strength. Wait until our great force join you so that we can together fulfill our missions of national resurrection which history has so kindly endowed us. When that time comes, we shall be celebrating together our national resurrection on the mainland. We shall be together building a new China based on the ideal of the Three People's Principles.

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